

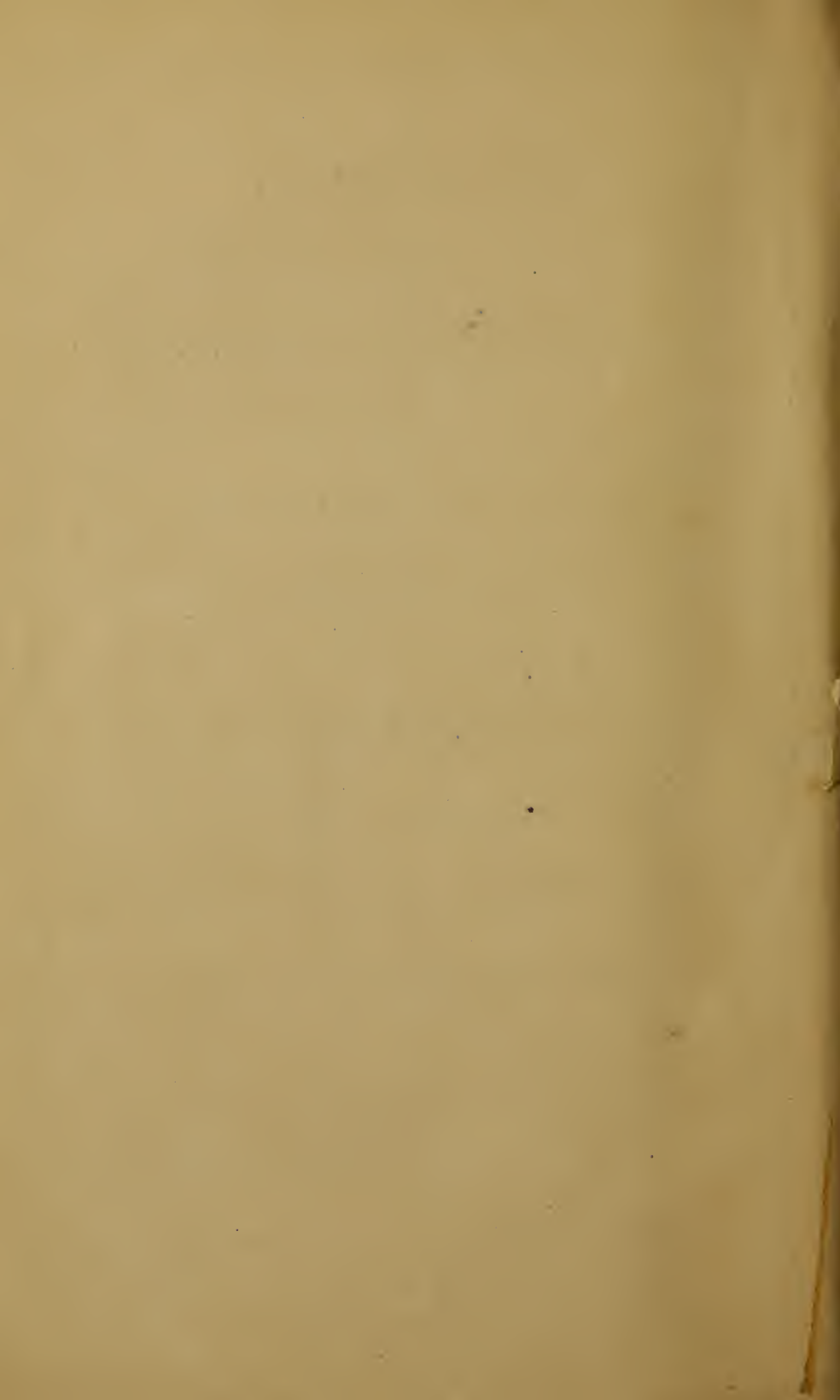
1871-72

B.M.H.S. RESOURCE CENTER
READING, MASS.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
OF THE
TOWN OF READING,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1872;
THE
REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1871-72;
THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY:
ALSO OF THE BOARD OF ENGINEERS.

BOSTON:
HOLLIS & GUNN, STEAM JOB PRINTERS, 25 HAWLEY ST.
1872.



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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

EXPENSES OF SCHOOLS.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Paid Cyrus A. Cole, principal	\$1,500 00	
Miss Mary Howes, assistant	330 00	
“ Susie E. Wade, assistant	433 34	
for care of rooms	66 00	
for fuel	105 00	
	<u> </u>	\$2,434 34

PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Lena T. Wood for teaching	\$504 00	
for care of room	33 00	
for fuel	63 57	
	<u> </u>	600 57

VILLAGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Mary F. Wood for teaching	\$144 00	
“ Abbie M. Hinckley for teaching	126 00	
Mrs. M. S. Wood “ “	144 00	
for care of room	33 00	
for fuel	63 58	
	<u> </u>	510 58

UNION-STREET SCHOOLS.

UPPER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss A. M. Knight for teaching	\$348 00	
for care of room	63 03	
for fuel	26 63	
	<u> </u>	437 66

LOWER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss S. E. Austin for teaching	\$164 80	
“ E. S. Foster “ “	112 00	
for care of room	63 03	
for fuel	26 62	
	<u> </u>	366 45

Amount carried forward \$4,349 60

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Amount brought forward \$4,349 60

UPPER PRIMARY.

Paid Miss A. M. Parker for teaching	\$96 00	
" S. A. Sweetser " "	184 00	
for care of room	63 03	
for fuel	32 61	
	<hr/>	375 64

LOWER PRIMARY.

Paid M. J. Shankland for teaching	\$280 00	
for care of room	63 02	
for fuel	32 60	
	<hr/>	375 62

WALNUT-STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss S. E. Holt for teaching	\$315 00	
for care of room	22 25	
for fuel	35 33	
	<hr/>	372 58

WALNUT-STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Ruth L. Pratt for teaching	\$280 00	
for care of room	19 75	
for fuel	24 25	
	<hr/>	324 00

WOBURN-STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss M. Eva Webster for teaching	\$240 00	
" Lucy A. Harden " "	99 00	
for care of room	21 00	
for fuel	27 00	
	<hr/>	387 00

* WOBBURN-STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Louise F. Williams for teaching	\$291 00	
for care of room	14 50	
for fuel	18 72	
	<hr/>	324 22

LOWELL-STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Vienna G. Bowles for teaching	\$291 67	
for care of room	31 75	
for fuel	37 29	
	<hr/>	360 71

Amount carried forward \$6,869 37

Amount brought forward \$6,869 37

MAIN-STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Julia McDuffie for teaching	\$280 00	
for care of room	17 00	
for fuel	29 24	
	<hr/>	326 24

HAVERHILL-STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss E. S. Foster for teaching	\$168 00	
“ Lucy A. Harden for teaching	24 00	
“ Anna Baldwin “ “	36 00	
for care of room	18 00	
for fuel	21 12	
	<hr/>	267 12
		<hr/>
		\$7,462 73
APPROPRIATION	\$7,000 00	
SCHOOL FUND	209 43	
	<hr/>	7,209 43
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$253 30

INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Paid Lewis Norris for labor on cellar, Woburn-street school-house	\$1 00
G. W. Batchelder for labor, Woburn-street school-house	2 20
Reuben Nichols “ “ at Walnut-street “ “	35 25
G. O. Batchelder for rent of land for Main-street school-house	10 00
E. H. Gowing for hooks and oil for High school-house	2 00
H. L. Cummings, express	4 88
Citizens' Gas-Light Co. for gas for High School	43 10
E. Whitfield for teaching drawing	30 00
C. B. McIntire for cleaning Main-street school-house	2 00
J. B. Wilbur “ “ Haverhill-street school-house	3 00
W. O. Haskell for erasers	3 31
D. P. Babb for cleaning school-house shed	2 00
Parker & McQuesten for brooms and brushes	2 75
C. B. McIntire for labor on school-houses	38 12
E. H. Gowing “ “ “ High school-house	13 15
Lee & Shepard for geographies	153 35
Cyrus A. Cole for books for Preparatory High School	16 84
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward	\$362 95

Amount brought forward	\$362 95
Paid Joseph L. Ross for ink-wells	3 15
Goldthwait, Snow & Knight, carpet for erasers	4 00
J. G. Hutchinson for labor at Lowell-street school-house	4 00
L. E. Gleason for books, chalk and ink for schools, 1870	36 86
W. O. Haskell for ink-wells	2 50
F. J. Bancroft, rent of organ for Preparatory High School	5 00
F. J. Bancroft, " " " " Village Grammar School	5 00
Thompson, Bigelow & Brown for school-books	24 00
E. H. Gowling for labor and materials for High School	11 17
D. B. Brooks & Bros. for crayons " " "	4 00
G. W. Walker & Co. for furnace grates " " "	18 00
E. H. Brabrook for chairs	2 50
N. H. Turner for stock and labor on school-houses	3 75
J. N. Nichols for mending glass in Lowell-street school-house	3 11
Jeremiah Flint for labor on school-houses	20 13
H. L. Cummings, express	6 80
G. W. Atkinson for pails, brooms, brushes, duster, rope and matches	15 54
Warren Parker for repairs on school-house	80
C. B. McIntire for labor and materials for school-houses	12 92
T. Littlefield & Co. for stove for Woburn-street school-house	40 00
T. Littlefield & Co., stove for Walnut-street school-house	30 00
T. Littlefield & Co. for repairs on stove for Walnut-street school-house	10 00
T. Littlefield & Co. for repairs on stove, Woburn-street school-house	6 50
T. Littlefield & Co. for repairs on stoves and funnels for school-houses	16 00
L. E. Gleason for school-books	9 93
L. E. Gleason for crayons, ink, and erasers	11 64
Adrian Mertens, use of pump for schools	4 00
Adrian Mertens for repair of tables and chair	2 25

 \$676 50

REPAIRS OF SCHOOL-HOUSES.

Paid C. C. Frost for labor and stock	\$119 50
Daniel Creesy, labor and stock for High school-house	51 42
Daniel Creesy, " " " " Walnut-street school-house	5 08
Daniel Creesy for labor and stock for Woburn-street school-house	3 84
George H. Porter for repairs on school-houses	4 00
Amount carried forward	\$183 84

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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Amount brought forward	\$183 84	
Paid Nichols & McIntire for painting	108 21	
W. H. Bancroft for painting Lowell-street school-house	61 55	
Nathan Bancroft for painting Union Hall	208 00	
C. F. & H. K. White for repairs on Walnut-street school-house	61 34	
N. H. Turner for repairs on school-houses	78 26	
C. B. McIntire for labor " "	6 75	
Joseph L. Ross for school furniture	95 50	
W. M. Phillips for labor and stock for school-houses	82 60	
W. H. Bancroft for glazing	14 28	
Nathan Bancroft for labor and stock	37 00	
J. C. Colson for slate preparation and labor on school-houses	21 00	
W. H. Bancroft for painting High school-house	87 96	
S. Harnden & Son for cabinet for High School	7 35	
Bancroft & Temple for repairs on school-houses	5 50	
Daniel Creesy " " " "	35 86	
W. H. Bancroft for mending glass on school-houses	5 50	
	<hr/>	1,100 50
APPROPRIATION		1,000 00
		<hr/>
Overdrawn		\$100 50

EXPENSES OF ALMSHOUSE.

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE
ALMSHOUSE, MARCH 1, 1872.

Furniture	\$276 54
Beds and bedding	224 65
Provisions	51 33
Stoves and fixtures	79 25
Manure	65 00
2 horses	200 00
1 cow	60 00
1 swine	20 00
2 carts	90 00
1 farm wagon	90 00
1 horse-sled	25 00
1 light wagon and sleigh	93 00
1 stone wagon	20 00
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward '	\$1,294 77

Amount brought forward	\$1,294 77	
1 mowing machine	75 00	
Farming utensils	151 00	
Wood and coal	148 50	
Cedar posts and lumber	15 00	
Hay	112 00	
17 fowls	12 75	
Grain and meal	3 25	
Produce	44 00	
Bridge and bound stone	20 00	
Bills due for produce and labor	304 00	
“ “ “ wood and lumber	219 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$2,399 27	
Inventory, March 1, 1871	2,427 27	
	<hr/>	
Inventory less than last year	\$28 00	
Cash for supplies	724 16	
	<hr/>	\$752 16
Deduct for repairs of buildings	\$255 14	
“ supplies for 192 travellers	120 96	
	<hr/>	376 10
	<hr/>	
Net expense of the poor at the Almshouse		\$376 06

EXPENDED FOR POOR AT THE ALMSHOUSE.

Paid for groceries	\$290 42	
“ provisions	247 42	
“ flour and bread	93 67	
“ grain and meal	195 28	
“ clothing	23 10	
“ furniture	33 00	
“ blacksmith's bills	37 37	
“ farming utensils	98 31	
“ produce	79 11	
“ stock	85 00	
“ miscellaneous	69 85	
“ coal and wood	266 43	
“ hired labor	52 75	
“ repairs on buildings	255 14	
“ salary of Superintendent	450 00	
“ Frank B. Kimball for medical services	21 75	
	<hr/>	\$2,298 60

CREDITS AT THE ALMSHOUSE.

Received for stock sold	\$156 17
“ wagon sold	75 00
“ wood sold	415 28
“ labor done off the farm	664 40
“ widow Mary Dean's dower	20 00
of Silas and Ellen E. Dean towards support of widow Mary Dean	78 00
for board of sundry persons	134 02
“ produce sold	31 57
cash for supplies	724 16
	<hr/> \$2,298 60

EXPENSES OF POOR OUT OF ALMSHOUSE.

Paid for supplies for Benjamin Weston	\$203 76
“ “ “ widow Calvin Nichols	100 25
“ “ “ “ Thomas Wall	25 50
“ “ “ “ Catherine O'Keefe	10 00
“ “ “ William Pierce	61 25
“ “ “ Joseph Bryant	132 30
“ “ “ Ivory Murray	61 54
“ “ “ Sylvanus Blanchard	31 10
“ “ “ Horatio G. Brown	27 80
“ “ “ Aaron McIntire	24 49
“ medical services for Joel Freeman's family	40 00
“ “ “ “ H. O. Bancroft	1 50
Boston and Maine Railroad for tickets for paupers	2 80
	<hr/> \$722 29
Net expenses of the poor at the Almshouse	377 06
	<hr/>
Whole expense of the poor	\$1,099 35

NAMES AND AGES OF INMATES AT ALMSHOUSE.

	YEARS
Widow Mary Dean	88
“ John McIntire	75
Miss Caroline Wiley	65
Alpheus Austin	52
Jonas Damon (died Sept. 15, 1871)	78
Whole number of inmates during the year	5
Present number	4
Average number	4½

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid C. B. McIntire, services as School Committee for 1870	\$56 60
John Norwood, " " Constable for 1870	15 30
John Norwood, " " Police Officer for 1870	25 00
N. H. Turner, " " Constable for 1870	12 00
Hiram Barrus, " " School Committee for 1870	50 00
William L. Crowe, services as Constable	18 00
N. H. Turner, " " Police	2 00
John Norwood, " " " 1871	30 00
Charles Tweed for services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor	180 00
James A. Bancroft for services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor	130 00
James A. Bancroft, Treasurer and Collector	300 00
W. J. Wightman for services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor	162 00
W. J. Wightman for services as Town Clerk	25 00
W. J. Wightman, recording births, deaths, and mar- riages	20 60
W. J. Wightman, recording other official records	12 00
W. J. Wightman, services, School Committee, 1870	18 00
	<hr/> \$1,055 60

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE.

Paid William Proctor for rent	\$150 00
H. F. Parker for coal	9 50
Carter Beers for stationery	1 45
W. J. Wightman for stationery	9 55
W. J. Wightman, express	2 50
	<hr/> \$173 00

EXTRA HIGHWAY WORK.

Paid Reuben Nichols for removing snow, 1870	\$6 40
Henry Baker " " " from cisterns	75
Reuben Nichols for labor on highway, well and cistern, 1870	131 70
Alfred Perkins for labor on highway, 1870	32 50
J. B. Lewis, Jr., for gravel for highway.	11 67
C. H. Moulton for labor on culvert on Woburn Street	22 75
C. H. Moulton " " " Parker Street	334 61
George Beasley " " " " "	14 29
Charles Tweed for stone for culvert on Parker Street	2 75
William P. Kingman, labor on Haven Street	9 17
Dudley Melendy, labor on highway, 1869	1 15
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward	\$567,74

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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Amount brought forward		\$567 74
Paid Amos Temple, labor, on Mount-Vernon Street	\$8 00	
Herrick Batchelder, labor on bridge, Haverhill Street	5 00	
Gilman C. Gleason, " " highways, 1870	39 37	
R. D. Wilkins for stone for culvert on High Street	222 30	
Hiram Burrus for labor on Linden Street	6 60	
S. Harnden for water-spout for Haven Street	5 00	
C. H. Moulton for labor on Pleasant Street	28 67	
S. Harnden " " " Parker Street	9 00	
S. Harnden " " " cor. Main and Pleasant Streets	25 00	
R. C. Totten for blacksmith work	18 82	
Bancroft & Temple, lumber for District No. 2	17 35	
A. P. Damon for sidewalk on Sanborn Street	20 00	
H. S. La Clair for gravel for District No. 4	6 10	
A. T. Holden " "	3 60	
George Parker for labor on Village Street	4 00	
Emerson Smith " " " highways	235 00	
George Beasley " " " new street, at depot	114 00	
C. H. Moulton " " " Main Street, near J. Frost's	33 10	
George Beasley " " " highways	293 00	
C. H. Moulton for clearing snow from sidewalks	3 00	
Charles Tweed for labor and material for highways	178 61	
James A. Bancroft for paying sundry persons for labor on New Street at the depot	225 91	
		<u>\$1,501 43</u>
		<u>\$2,069 17</u>

GRADING HILL ON MAIN STREET.

APPROPRIATION		\$500 00
Paid C. H. Moulton for labor	\$225 00	
George Beasley " "	98 75	
Charles Tweed " "	176 25	
		<u>\$500 00</u>

DAMAGES FOR LAND TAKEN FOR HIGHWAYS.

PARKER STREET.		
Paid Milton D. Kingman	\$200 00	
Henry Manley	50 00	
Sylvester Harnden	350 00	
		<u>600 00</u>
UNION STREET.		
Paid Mrs. Polly Smith	\$300 00	
Joseph Spokesfield's estate	25 00	
		<u>325 00</u>
Amount carried forward		<u>\$925 00</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Amount brought forward \$925 00

DAMAGES FOR LAND, &c., continued.

VILLAGE STREET.

Paid Etson Damen 150 00

HAVEN STREET.

Paid William P. Kingman 150 00

PLEASANT STREET.

Paid Sylvester Harnden \$800 00
 Mrs. A. L. Buxton 10 00
 Emory B. Eames 54 00

864 00

NEW STREET WEST OF DEPOT.

Paid Edmund Eaton \$1,500 00
 Thomas Sweetser 112 50
 Edward Appleton 2,400 00
 Alfred A. Prescott 700 00
 William Proctor 500 00
 Edward Safford 800 00
 Thomas Gaffield 24 00

6,036 50

\$8,125 50

REPAIR OF HIGHWAYS.

Paid Samuel Holbrook, surveyor in District No. 1 . . . \$671 95
 King George, " " " " 2 . . . 802 12
 King George for culvert on High Street, District No. 2 . . . 541 40
 John G. Hutchinson, surveyor in District No. 3 . . . 427 00
 Henry S. La Clair, " " " " 4 . . . 600 00
 Joseph L. Pratt, " " " " 5 . . . 390 10
 C. H. Moulton, " " " " 6 . . . 565 00
 Geo. Beasley, " " " " 6 . . . 61 46

\$4,059 03
 APPROPRIATION 4,000 00

Overdrawn \$59 03

STREET LAMPS.

Paid Daniel P. Spokesfield for lighting lamps . . . \$19 37
 Citizens' Gas-Light Co. for gas 148 16
 Charles Ballard for lighting lamps 19 00
 T. B. Pratt for lamp and oil 3 04
 Ames Gowing for " " 42 00
 John Pike for gas-pipe, lanterns and frames . . . 50 99
 B. F. Hebard for lamps and fluid 4 42
 W. H. Bancroft for glazing lanterns and painting posts . . . 2 20

\$289 18

Decoration of Soldiers' Graves . . . \$125 00

CEMETERY.

Paid Solon Bancroft, Treasurer of Trustees . . . \$850 00

LIBRARY.

Paid Francis H. Knight, Treasurer . . . \$500 00

PRINTING.

Paid Hollis & Gunn for Town, School and Library Reports	\$216 25
“ “ “ extra Library Reports . . .	9 50
“ “ “ Town Warrants . . .	5 00
“ “ “ programmes, cards & examination blanks,	24 00
H. C. Gray for assessor's notices . . .	1 25
W. L. Crowe for Warrants for Town Meeting . . .	2 50
N. H. Turner “ “ “ “ “ . . .	6 00
	<hr/> \$264 50

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid N. H. Turner for notifying Town Officers, 1870 . . .	\$11 00
G. W. Dean, ringing bell for Town Meetings & 4th of July . . .	2 50
H. L. Cummings, express for town offices . . .	10 20
Nathan Bancroft for care of town-flag . . .	5 00
Peterson & Parker for covering stone for cistern and cess-pool . . .	12 00
Franklin Fletcher for mortar for well on common . . .	2 00
G. C. Gleason for coffin stools for cemetery . . .	4 50
J. Adams Wells for drain-pipe . . .	25 00
C. C. Frost for building platform to well on Ash Street . . .	7 00
H. S. La Clair for tending check-list . . .	3 00
Garfield & Co. for painting guide-boards . . .	10 00
Amasa Farricr for surveying, 1869 . . .	3 00
S. Harnden for watering troughs for pumps on common . . .	6 25
N. W. Broad for repairs on hearse-house . . .	33 95
J. W. Spokesfield for ringing bell for 4th July, 1870-71 . . .	4 00
Lyceum-Hall Association for Hall for Town Meetings . . .	40 00
N. H. Turner for notifying Town Officers . . .	5 50
Jonathan Frost for storage of guns and cleaning rooms . . .	7 00
H. L. Cummings, express . . .	1 85
H. L. Cummings, express drain-pipe and lanterns . . .	3 50
John A. Blunt for iron and grates for culverts . . .	8 36
W. H. Baker for drain-frame for Woburn Street . . .	6 10
J. B. Leathe for revenue stamps . . .	1 00
J. B. Leathe for services on the History of the Town . . .	100 71
W. J. Wightman, services on History of the Town . . .	45 65
W. J. Wightman, expenses to Lowell . . .	3 30
W. J. Wightman, expenses, Malden Bridge . . .	7 80
James A. Bancroft for surveying streets . . .	15 00
	<hr/> \$385 17

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

For the year 1868	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$14 57
" " " 1869	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	64 76
" " " 1870	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	144 82
" " " 1871	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	180 99
									<hr/> \$405 15

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ENGINEERS.

THE Engineers take pleasure in reporting the apparatus in excellent order and good condition, with the exception of Hancock Engine, No. 2, which sadly needs painting, and a new hose carriage, as the hose-reel which we have been obliged to use with it (a little thing, formerly run with old No. 3) is entirely inadequate; and for these two improvements we feel obliged to ask an appropriation.

Eagle Engine has been furnished with a new set of iron brakes, as we were so unfortunate as to break one of the old wooden ones at a fire in Wakefield. An opening has been made to the large cistern under the High School-house, which is all the added facility made the past year for a supply of water. We would seriously call the attention of the town to the urgent necessity of a better supply of water.

The department has been called out to fires but four times the year past, three of which were in Wakefield.

April 8th. — To a fire in the woods belonging to Mr. Thos. Sweetser, near Wilmington line, which was checked with much labor.

June 15th. — In the night, at the burning of two stores in Wakefield.

June 23d. — At the burning of the Baptist Church in Wakefield, in the night, when the whole Department were called by a second alarm, and won themselves much credit, and the repeated thanks and expressions of obligation from the citizens and fire department of that town.

December 23d. — At the burning of Mr. Lucius Beebe's stable, who, in a letter of thanks for the timely assistance rendered in saving so much of his property, generously presented Eagle Engine Company fifty dollars.

The expenses of the Department the past year are as follows :—

Paid C. C. Cummings, services as Steward of Eagle Engine	
No. 4	\$50.00
“ C. H. Cox, care of hooks and ladders to May 1, 1871 .	5.00
“ C. H. Cox for wrench and oil	1.50
“ Members of Fire Department for services to May 1, '71	1,181.75
“ E. B. Eames for repairs on Eagle Engine No. 4 . . .	1.00
“ Nathan Bancroft for cleaning Engine No. 3 . . .	3.00
“ Nathan Bancroft, services as steward, and repairs on	
Engine No. 2	29.00
“ C. A. Case for taking Hancock Engine from village to	
house	2.00
“ A. Erickson for flag	15.00
“ H. E. Cox for drawing engines to fires	10.00
“ Hunneman & Co. sundry articles	42 50
“ E. E. Smith for repairing Hancock Engine . . .	26.50
“ Albert F. Allen for straps for Hose and Ladders . .	7.50
“ W. H. Bancroft for glazing at Eagle Engine House .	1.80
“ G. A. Boyce for drawing Hook and Ladders from	
Wakefield	1.50
“ Jonathan Frost for rent of land for engine house . .	8.00
“ John A. Blunt for labor on Eagle Engine	8.50
“ T. B. Pratt for oil, matches and pail	2.18
	<hr/>
	\$1,396.73
APPROPRIATION	1,500.00
	<hr/>
Not drawn	103.27

The three companies are all full, and under excellent discipline, and will do their best to merit the support of the town and the continued generous confidence and encouragement now given them by the citizens generally.

We would recommend an appropriation of fifteen hundred dollars, the same as last year, to run the Department the coming year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES McKAY,
WM. H. TEMPLE,

Engineers.

STATE-AID ACCOUNT.

Paid Allen, Jules R.	\$48 00
Berry, Daniel	48 00
Blanchard, Sylvanus	169 00
Buck, William	18 00
Carleton, George W.	18 00
Davis, William W.	72 00
Emerson, Albert B.	40 00
Eaton, Moses F.	64 00
Farmer, Edwin	24 00
Goodwin, George F.	48 00
Hetler, Adam	48 00
Krook, Lambertus W.	36 00
Leathe, Charles B.	14 00
McAllister, Benjamin	72 00
Manning, Edwin	54 00
Mears, William	72 00
Monroe, Isaac	35 00
McDonald, William A.	48 00
Nichols, Everett E.	96 00
Pinkham, Orlando C.	54 00
Pinkham, Tobias	48 00
Robinson, John E.	48 00
Stevens, Charles H.	48 00
Simes, George W.	168 00
Weston, S. Nelson	96 00
Young, Charles O.	96 00
	<hr/> \$1,582 00

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS
FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

RECEIPTS.

Received for schools (appropriation)	\$7,000 00
“ “ repair of school-houses (appropriation)	1,000 00
“ “ ordinary charges “	7,500 00
“ “ highways “	4,000 00
“ “ interest “	4,000 00
“ “ Fire Department “	1,500 00
“ “ Public Library “	500 00
“ “ Cemetery “	1,500 00
“ “ grading hill on Main Street “	500 00
“ “ State Tax	3,500 00
“ “ County Tax	1,424 25
“ “ overlay of taxes	1,001 91
“ “ School Fund	209 43
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward	\$33,635 59

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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Amount brought forward	\$33,635 59
Received for Corporation Tax	512 17
“ “ National-Bank Tax	373 46
“ “ school-books	30 58
“ “ rent of Union Hall	24 33
“ “ dog licenses	103 24
“ “ auction license	2 00
“ “ lumber and iron sold	5 00
“ “ stone sold	12 00
“ “ lamp-post (of G. L. Smith)	25 00
“ “ tuition in schools	4 00
“ “ rent of office (of J. B. Leathe)	40 00
“ “ interest	390 00
“ “ State aid	1,700 00
	<hr/> \$36,857 37

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for schools	\$7,462 63
“ incidental school expenses	676 50
“ repair of school-houses	1,100 50
“ supplies for Almshouse	724 16
“ poor out of the Almshouse	722 29
“ Town officers	1,055 60
“ highways, repairs	4,059 03
“ extra highway work	2,069 17
“ land damages	8,125 50
“ street lamps	289 18
“ miscellaneous	385 17
“ grading hill on Main Street	500 00
“ Trustees of Cemetery	850 00
“ “ Library	500 00
“ printing	264 50
“ expenses of Selectmen's office	173 00
“ Fire Department	1,336 73
“ abatement of taxes	405 15
“ State Tax	3,500 00
“ County Tax	1,424 25
“ interest	3,949 65
“ State aid	1,582 00
	<hr/> \$41,215 01
Add for balance now due the Trustees of the Cemetery and in the treasury	650 00
	<hr/> \$41,865 01
Deduct labor and land damages on new street at the depot, for which no appropriation was made	6,376 41
	<hr/> \$35,488 60
Receipts more than expenses	1,368 77
	<hr/> \$36,857 37

As there is much difference of opinion in regard to the taxation of incomes, we have thought it would be well to present the following decision of the Supreme Court on that subject:—

“A case in the supreme court, involving the question of taxation of income in part derived from stock in trade used in business and taxed, has been recently decided, and the opinion is here given in full.

“WILCOX v. MIDDLESEX.

Opinion of the Court.

“AMES, J.—The petitioner's complaint of the manner in which he has been taxed in the town of Medford, where he resides, is based entirely on the assumption that the income which he derives from his business, as a member of the firm, is derived from their ‘stock in trade’ legally taxable and actually taxed in the city of Boston. On that ground he claims that the tax upon his income is assessed in violation of that clause of the statute which provides that ‘no income shall be taxed which is derived from property subject to taxation.’ Gen. Stats., ch. 11 § 4.

“But it appears to us that the assumption on which the petitioner's case depends is a fallacy. The income from a profession, trade, or employment, which is taxable under our system of laws, is an entirely different thing from the capital invested in the business or the stock of goods in the purchase of which the whole or part of such capital may have been expended. The income meant by the statute is the income for the year, and is the result of the year's business. It is the net result of many combined influences: the use of the capital invested, the personal labor and services of the members of the firm, the skill and ability with which they lay in, or from time to time renew, their stock, the carefulness and good judgment with which they sell and give credit, and the foresight and address with which they hold themselves prepared for the fluctuations and contingencies affecting the general commerce and business of the country. To express it in a more summary and comprehensive form, it is the creation of capital, industry and skill. The stock of goods that happened to be in the possession of the firm on the first day of May might be, and it is perfectly fair to assume would be, in the ordinary course of business for the most part sold out and replaced by another stock; and in the course of the year this operation might be many times repeated. The income to which the statute refers does not mean merely the profits derived from the sale of the goods that happened to be on hand at the date of the tax, but the profits derived from the dealings and business of the firm for the year. It would not relieve the petitioner from any part of his tax, though it should be found that the goods on hand at the date of the tax had yielded no profit whatever, and had contributed absolutely nothing toward making up the sum which he reported to the assessors as his income from that business. It certainly is among possibilities that the business for the first part of the year may have been conducted and the entire stock on hand on the first day of May may have been sold at a loss, and yet that a favorable change in the markets at a later period may have overbalanced this loss, and made the result of the whole year a profitable one. And even if it could be said that the ‘stock’ of the firm taxable in Boston is meant by the statute to include the whole amount of the capital invested in its business, yet the profits of the business depend upon many elements, and are affected by many causes other than the mere use of capital. The tax which has been assessed upon the peti-

tioner is not for an income derived from specific goods and merchandise; but for an income derived from the business of dealing commercially in the like goods and merchandise with such a degree of skill, judgment and good fortune, that his share of the year's profits amounts to the sum which he returned as his income from business. We cannot doubt that this tax is allowed and justified by the laws of the State, and we see no reason for holding that the petitioner has been over-taxed.

“Petition dismissed, with costs.”

CHARLES TWEED, JAMES A. BANCROFT, W. J. WIGHTMAN,	}	<i>Selectmen of Reading.</i>
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READING, April 1, 1872.

Dr. JAMES A. BANCROFT, *Treasurer and Collector*, in Account with the TOWN OF READING. Cr.

To Balance in Treasury, March 1, 1871	\$3,928.21	By Paying Selectmen's orders	\$32,557.21
Notes of John Batchelder and accrued interest . . .	2,206.59	" Town debt	22,870.21
Interest	125.00	" Interest	3,949.65
State aid, 1870	1,700.00	" State Tax	3,500.00
Corporation Tax	512.17	" County Tax	1,424.85
National-Bank Tax	373.46	" Board of Francis Nichols at State Reform School	26.00
School-fund	209.43	" Insurance on piano in High School	6.00
Hired money	30,146.38	Balance in Treasury of—	
Tax-list for collection	33,426.76	Uncollected Taxes for 1869	\$7.97
Interest on Taxes	265.78	" " 1870	166.01
County Treasurer on account of dog license	103.74	" " 1871	3,332.97
Auctioneer's license	2.00	Notes in Treasury	2,631.59
Rent of Union Hall	24.33	Cash	2,767.97
Rent of Office	40.00		
School-books	30.58		8,906.51
Tuition	4.00		
Old iron and lumber	5.00		
Stone	12.00		
L. G. Smith on account of lamp-post	25.00		
Nancy Wakefield's estate, in trust	100.00		
	<u>\$73,240.43</u>		<u>\$73,240.43</u>

JAMES A. BANCROFT,
Treasurer and Collector.

Reading, March 1, 1872.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

LIABILITIES.

The town owes notes amounting to	\$66,300 00	
Interest computed to March 1, 1872	1,285 59	
	<u> </u>	\$67,585 59
Amount due Fire Department estimated at	\$1,000 00	
Miscellaneous debts, say	200 00	
	<u> </u>	1,200 00
		<u> </u>
		\$68,785 59

AVAILABLE ASSETS.

S. Harnden's note, balance	\$425 00	
Interest on same	15 51	
Amount due on mortgage, real estate, James and Sarah Bancroft, assigned the town by John Batchelder	2,084 62	
Interest on same to March 1, 1872	139 87	
Balance due from estate George Batchelder	1,771 43	
Unpaid taxes	3,506 95	
Cash in hands of Treasurer	2,767 97	
	<u> </u>	\$10,711 25
Net amount of town debt		\$58,074 24

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY.

Town farm, valued at	\$4,000 00	
Personal property at Alms-house	2,384 80	
	<u> </u>	\$6,384 80
Cemetery lots, say	\$200 00	
Hearse, estimated worth	200 00	
Hearse-house	75 00	
	<u> </u>	475 00
Amount carried forward		\$6,859 80

Amount brought forward	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$6,859 80
Eagle Fire Engine	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$1,000 00
" " " house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	350 00
Washington Fire Engine	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	200 00
" " " house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	40 00
Union	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	50 00
Hancock	"	"	.	.	.	.	.	350 00
" " " house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	150 00
Hook-and-Ladder carriage, &c.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	400 00
" " " " house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	80 00
Furniture in Eagle Engine house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	50 00
								<hr/>
								2,670 00
Iron safe in Selectmen's office	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$50 00
Furniture " "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	100 00
								<hr/>
								150 00
School-houses and furniture in same	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	30,000 00
Public Library, furniture, &c.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,000 00
Piano in High-School school-house	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	400 00
Amount due from State for aid furnished soldiers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3,216 17
								<hr/>
								\$45,295 97

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1872, and find the same correct, and satisfactorily vouched.

FRANCIS H. KNIGHT.
W. WALLACE DAVIS.
ANDREW HOWES.

READING, March 1, 1872.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1871.

Date.	Names.	Sex.	Names of Parents.	Occupation of Father.
Jan. 4.	Gerry Hill Converse.	M.	Albert F. and Martha.	Shoemaker.
" 5.	Almine Vco.	F.	Frank and Delcia.	Sawyer.
" 9.	Winnifred Emerson.	F.	Silas G. and Frutilla.	Farmer.
Feb. 3.	Henry Fay Page.	M.	William R. and Jennie.	Grocer.
" 3.	Mary Grace Wakefield.	F.	Charles and Mary A.	Farmer.
" 14.	Emma Alice Ballard.	F.	George and Elizabeth.	Machinist.
" 28.	Nellie May Baston.	F.	Jefferson H. and Nellie.	Carpenter.
March 19.	Ruth Augusta Temple.	F.	William H. and Ruth A.	Auctioneer.
April 13.	Lowetta Delia Howard.	F.	John E. and Hannah.	Moulder.
" 24.	Florence Josephine Brown.	F.	Samuel and Josephine.	Wheelwright.
May 2.	Killam.	M.	J. Warren and Mary S.	Farmer.
" 13.	Minnie Louise Jones	F.	Eliab C. and Clara M.	Carpenter.
" 31.	Blanche Vien Cogswell.	F.	Charles F. and Maria.	Sea captain.
June 14.	Florence Annie Amazeen.	F.	Harris and Charlotte A.	R. R. conductor.
July 1.	Edith Eliza Smith.	F.	Elbridge D. and Eliza R.	Engineer.
" 11.	Earnest Bertram Heselton.	M.	Richmond and Lizzie M.	Cabinet maker.
" 13.	Frank Linden Dinsmoor.	M.	Robert and Nannie.	Clerk.
" 17.	Walter Bancroft Nichols.	M.	Moses E. and Emma E.	Painter.
" 23.	Mabel Annette Pike.	F.	John S. and Mary A.	Salesman.
" 29.	George Parker Winship.	M.	Albert E. and Loella R.	Teacher.
Aug. 1.	Edith E. Lloyd.	F.	Alfred H. and Luella R.	Clerk.
" 11.	Nora Abby Batchelder.	F.	Edward S. and Ella G.	Salesman.
" 12.	Arthur Gould Bancroft.	M.	James A. and Harriet M.	Shoe manufacturer.
" 23.	Krook.	M.	Lamburtus W. and Sophia F.	Cabinet maker.
Oct. 1.	Lydia Harriet Baker.	F.	Adelbert and Harriet E.	R. R. brakeman.
" 5.	Charles Eton Stratton.	M.	George A. and Mary A.	Shoe cutter.
" 10.	Mabel Thomas.	F.	Charles D. and E. Josephine.	Custom House.
" 10.	Ada Kendall Putnam.	F.	Henry E. and Mary E.	Cabinet maker.
" 22.	Herbert Augustine Nichols.	M.	Richard B. and Josephine A.	Farmer.
" 24.	Arthur Bradford Stanley.	M.	Clarence E. and Harriet A.	Farmer.
" 28.	Winthrop Dana Parker.	M.	Galen A. and Edna S.	Clerk.
" 28.	Harry Mortimer Richardson.	M.	Loammi G. and Priscilla.	Provision dealer.
Nov. 2.	Amy Annie Nichols.	F.	Parker, 2d, and Annis A.	Butcher.
" 14.	Nellian Greeley Kimball.	F.	Frank B. and Harriet E.	Physician.
" 18.	Whelton.	F.	David and Ann.	Laborer.
" 23.	Carrie Elizabeth Evans.	F.	Thomas A. and Esther A.	Teamster.
" 24.	Ada Dizer Buck.	F.	George F. and R. Aulanda.	Merchant.

Number of Births registered	37
" Males	14
" Females	23

NATIVITY OF PARENTS.

	Father.	Mother.
United States	34	33
Foreign	3	4

DEATHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1871.

Date.	Names.	Age.			Names of Parents or Husbands.	Cause.
		Y.	M.	D.		
Jan. 6.	Nancy Lawrence.	42	8	18	John Lawrence.	Pneumonia.
" 29.	Susan Lord.	4	3		George D. and Sarah A.	Putrid sore throat.
Feb. 3.	Ephraim Brown.	79	11	25	—	Old age.
" 4.	Abigail Emerson, wid.	82			David Emerson.	Lung fever.
" 6.	Albert White.	61	9		—	—
" 10.	Sidney Batchelder.	1	7	28	John and S. Lizzie.	Pneumonia.
" 19.	Horatio N. Cate.	59	5	28	Daniel and Mary.	Mortification.
March 4.	Thomas T. Greenwood.	46	2	1	Miles and Sarah.	—
" 8.	William Lucy.	55			—	Paralysis.
" 17.	Daniel Pratt.	74		21	David and Elizabeth.	Apoplexy.
" 24.	Sadie Foss.	20	5		Charles W. Foss.	Vomiting.
" 28.	Jonas Evans.	42	3		Amos and Catherine R.	Consumption.
April 12.	Jane Butler.	19	7		James and Ann G.	Congestion of lungs.
" 14.	Mary W. Leathe.	78	9	20	Ephraim and Molly (Weston).	Old age.
" 24.	Mary E. Carr.	33	4	25	John P. and Ruth O.	Consumption.
" 30.	Etta L. Vermill.	3		21	William and Carrie F.	Pneumonia.
May 7.	Mary N. Briggs.	16	6	9	Henry and —.	Consumption.
" 17.	Elias Damon.	74	2	6	Daniel and Dorcas.	Heart disease.
June 2.	Florence P. Dean.	5	16		George W. and F. Maria.	Convulsions.
" 6.	Charles H. Gowing.	11	1	21	Ames and Emma G.	Diphtheria.
" 14.	Helen G. Gowing.	6	3		Ames and Emma G.	Diphtheria.
" 18.	Selina Bancroft, wid.	54	6	22	Jonathan and Pearn (Baldwin).	Consumption.
" 18.	Betsey Pratt, wid.	75	1	9	David Pratt.	Dropsy.
July 7.	John Batchelder.	80	2	12	John and Sally.	Pneumonia.
" 25.	Ann Parker.	10	9	25	Theron and Anna.	—
Aug. —.	Katie Goodenow Wilcox.	3			William and Annie G.	Cholera infantum.
" 26.	Rose Sullivan.	45			James Sullivan.	—
Sept. 10.	Abigail Eames.	73			Kendall and Abigail (Flint).	Heart disease.
" 15.	Jonas Damon.	78			Joseph and Patience.	Old age.
" 16.	Charles G. Crosby.	40	1	23	—	Consumption.
" 24.	Clarris Nichols, wid.	74	8		John and Jerusha.	Old age.
" 28.	C. Katie Haag.	4	6	20	Charles and Mary A.	Diphtheria.
" 28.	Ida M. Beard.	18	6		Henry and Ellen.	Chloris.
" 30.	Ruth E. Damon, wid.	78	5		William and Ruth (Eames).	Old age.
Oct. 3.	Anna F. Morse.	62	11	8	Moses Morse.	—
" 7.	Ruth Augusta Temple.	6	20		William H. and Ruth A.	Inflammation of bowels.
" 10.	Lydia Upton.	88	4	6	Thomas R. and Ruth.	Mammary cancer.
" 16.	Ann Burt, wid.	75	8	7	Benjamin and Mary (Saunders).	Bright's disease.
" 17.	Jacob A. Haag.	1	9	14	Charles and Mary A.	Diphtheria.
" 22.	William Badger.	60	5	7	William and Abigail.	Apoplexy.
Nov. 4.	Elizabeth S. Parker.	61			Cephas Parker.	—
" 7.	Isaac Robey.	81		23	Thomas and —.	Paralysis.
" 8.	Chester B. Cook.	8	4	27	Jeremiah C. and Adaline M.	Membranous croup.
" 19.	Lydia L. Baker.	54			James Baker.	Accidental.
" 20.	Ira Grav.	67			John and Elizabeth.	Congestion of lungs.
" 30.	Ada D. Buck.	6			George F. and R. Aulanda.	Spina bifida.
Dec. 5.	Eliza Gardner.	82			—	Bright's disease.
" 8.	Louisa R. Finch.	36			Andrew and Mary (Monroe).	Consumption.
" 18.	Cephas Parker.	74			Richard and Hannah.	Apoplexy.
" 19.	David Nichols.	66	11	16	Amos and Molly.	Pleuro-pneumonia.
" 27.	Susan Nichols.	67	1	22	David Nichols.	Paralysis.
" 30.	Hiram Randall.	81	4		Hiram and Maria.	Inflammation of Kidneys.

Whole number of Deaths registered in 1871 52

Males 21

Females 31

NATIVITY.

United States 51

Foreign 1

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1870.

Date.	Name of Groom and Bride.	Age.	Occupation of Groom.	Residence.	Place of Birth.	Names of Parents.	By whom Married.
Jan. 1.	George F. Cook.	23	Blacksmith.	Brookline, N. H.	Reading.	James D. and Rebecca W.	Rev. William H. Wilcox.
" 3.	Augusta A. Pierce.	20	Reading.	Reading.	Stoneham.	John and Agnes.	Rev. Frank R. Morse.
" 11.	John R. Norwood.	23	Organpipe maker.	Lowell.	Medford.	Charles B. and Phebe A.	Rev. William Barrows.
" 30.	Eliza F. Carter.	23	Carpenter.	Wilmington.	Peterboro', N. H.	Hugh and Eley A.	Rev. Luther G. Barrett.
" 30.	James W. Murray.	27	Druggist.	Reading.	Hill, N. H.	John S. and Martha G.	Rev. J. Edwards Bell.
Feb. 12.	Alice J. Perry.	21	"	"	North Andover.	Isaac and Peniah.	Rev. William H. Wilcox.
" 25.	James W. Hunt.	21	Teamster.	"	Andover.	Moses and Rebecca.	Rev. Samuel H. Tolman.
" 25.	Ada A. Mears.	31	"	"	Wakefield.	Asaph and Lucinda.	Rev. William Barrows.
March 2.	Thomas A. Evans.	38	Wheelwright.	Lowell.	Lisbon, N. H.	Charles and Almada A.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 27.	Frederick E. Cogswell.	30	Salesman.	Reading.	"	Edwin P. and Lucinda A.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 27.	Josie Nichols.	20	Cabinet maker.	Wilmington.	Wilmington.	Stephen T. and Martha.	Rev. William Barrows.
April 6.	John S. Pike.	20	Farmer.	Reading.	Lyman, Me.	Prentiss M. and Martha.	Rev. William Barrows.
" 6.	Abbie M. Walker.	15	"	"	"	James and Rebecca L.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 23.	Charles H. Hill.	23	"	"	"	Ezra C. and Frances.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 23.	Fannie I. McKay.	18	R. R. conductor.	Boston.	East Boston.	Seth and Martha.	Rev. William Barrows.
" 23.	Ezra K. Manning.	23	Shoe cutter.	Reading.	Fall River.	Samuel and Hannah.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 23.	Mary L. Bessey.	27	"	"	Dover, N. H.	Augustus S. and Mary C.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 23.	George W. Holbrook.	25	"	"	Weston, Vt.	Leonard and Olivia.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Sarah A. Crowther.	25	Carpenter.	Newton.	Edgcomb, Me.	Asa and Sarah.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Charles W. Kelley.	22	Shoe manufacturer.	Watertown.	Watertown.	Elijah and Eliza.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Emma J. Meads.	23	"	Reading.	Woburn, N. H.	Jason and Caroline M.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Gilman P. Burnham.	24	"	"	Phastow, N. H.	Isaac M. and Mary A.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Mary Norcross.	22	"	"	Berwick, Me.	Hiram and Maria.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Frankie F. Richardson.	22	"	"	Canada.	Hezekiah B. and Deborah L.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Kennie M. Clark.	23	Trader.	Freeport, Me.	Freeport, Me.	Luther D. and Eliza S.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Hiram G. Randall.	23	Shoe laster.	Reading.	Woonsocket, R. I.	Oliver A. and Sophia B.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Eliza Galbraith.	25	"	"	East Lexington.	Ivory and Harriet M.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Charles H. Swain.	21	"	"	Ireland.	Peter and Bridget.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Emma M. Sanborn.	23	"	"	Scotland.	— Rosanna.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Michael Doherty.	24	"	"	Freedom, Me.	Henry F. and Luthera.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Henry S. Foster.	19	"	"	Reading.	James and Emma.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Susan V. Thurston.	22	"	"	Newton.	Ezra V. and Sarah.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Frederick H. Parker.	22	"	"	Stonham.	Franklin and Sarah.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Alice E. Gibson.	19	"	"	Salem, N. H.	Samuel and Lydia.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Frank Hayes.	21	"	"	Wakefield.	Gustave F. D. and Ann M.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Adaline Sprague.	22	"	"	"	Israel and Meribah S.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Willie F. Fletcher.	22	"	"	"	"	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Ida A. Faulkner.	21	"	"	"	"	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Minor A. Skinner.	17	"	"	"	"	Rev. John N. Short.
" 23.	Lydia A. Gray.	18	"	"	"	"	Rev. John N. Short.

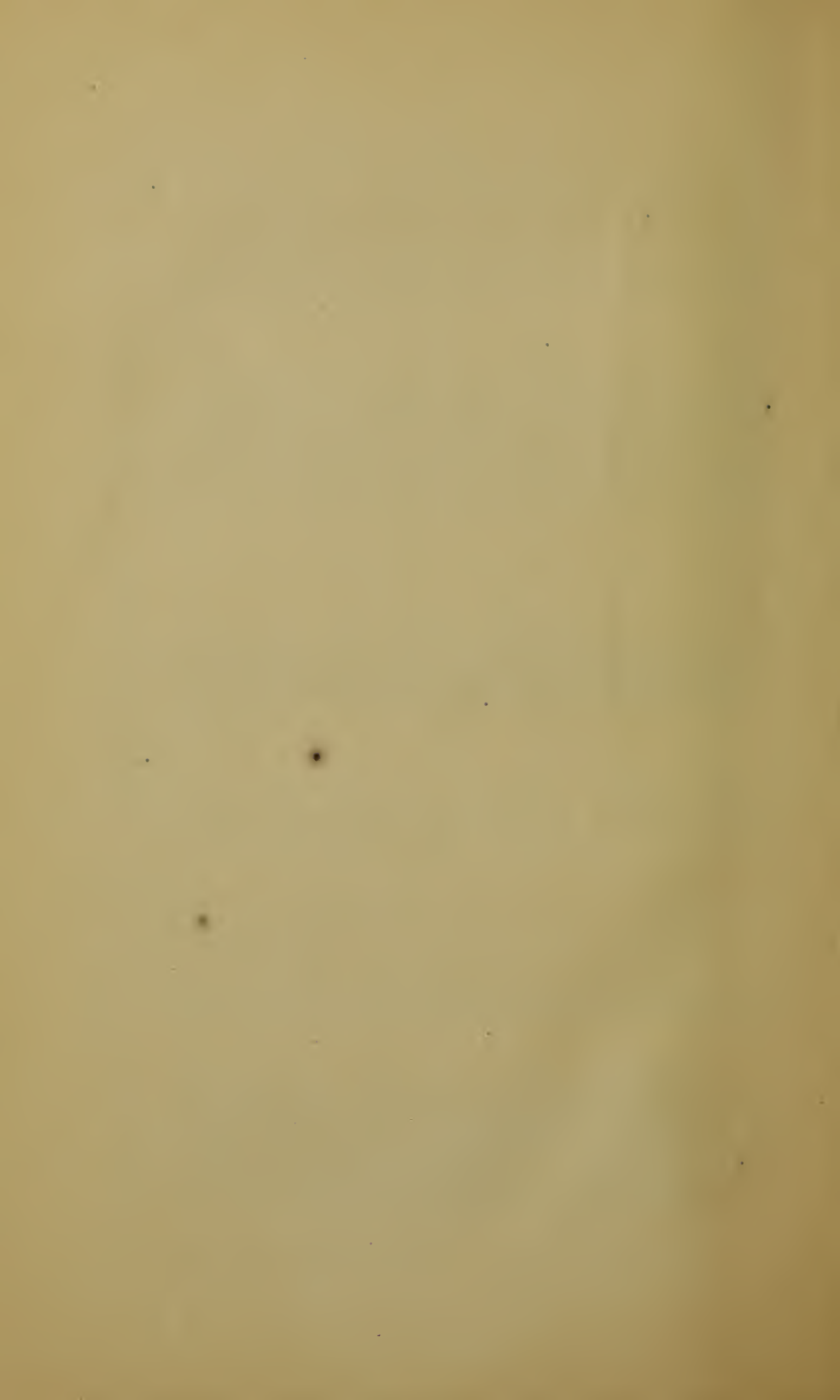
" 20.	James E. Tuffs.	Shoemaker.	Lynn.	Nova Scotia.	Henry G. and Harriet A.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 20.	Sarah J. Swain.	Machinist.	Reading.	Woburn.	Oliver A. and Sophia B.	Rev. N. R. Wright.
" 27.	Mary S. Brown.	Cabinet maker.	Wakefield.	Boston.	Thomas M. and Elizabeth H.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
Oct. 1.	John C. Zappi.	"	"	Holland.	Horatio G. and Abby.	Rev. W. H. Pierson.
" 4.	Mary E. Murray.	Civil engineer.	"	Nova Scotia.	John C. and Abbie.	Rev. S. R. Denner.
" 7.	Thomas Appleton, 2d.	Shoe manufacturer.	Essex.	Reading.	John and Elizabeth.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 11.	Mary Louise Burnham.	Mariner.	Woburn.	Charlestown.	Edward and Francis A.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 14.	Everett B. Richardson.	Clerk.	Providence, R. I.	Reading.	Abijah W. and Eliza W.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 15.	Emma M. Richardson.	"	"	Woburn.	George and Harriet.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 18.	Charles C. Whaldone.	"	Reading.	Claremont, N. H.	Kendall and Delia.	Rev. J. F. Powers.
" 18.	Clara I. Coffren.	"	"	Wakefield.	Frederick and Abby.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 24.	Henry Walter Brown.	Carpenter.	"	Belfast, Me.	Isaiah and Elizabeth.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 25.	Ella H. Robinson.	Book-keeper.	"	Reading.	John A. and Harriet C.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 26.	Sarah W. Ballard.	Carpenter.	Wakefield.	Woburn.	Henry and Priscilla.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 27.	Willis Sargent Mason.	"	Reading.	Essex.	George and Elizabeth.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 28.	Hattie O. Fuller.	"	Reading.	Woburn.	Andrew A. and Sarah S.	Rev. J. F. Powers.
" 28.	Elizah Brownell.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Enoch and Lydia.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 28.	Sarah Chatham.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Stas and Sarah.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	Henry Robinson.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Esra B. and Sarah A.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 28.	Mary H. Howes.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Andrew and Mary S.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	Frank M. Smith.	"	Reading.	Essex.	James C. and Abby.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 28.	Ann Louisa Appleton.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Edward and Frances A.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	Francis H. Dewey.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Francis O. and Elizabeth A.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 28.	Augusta T. Hawes.	"	Reading.	Essex.	William and Rebecca.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 28.	William J. Laron.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Robert and Sarah.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	Ruth A. White.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Lewis and Sarah.	Rev. John N. Short.
" 28.	Marcellus B. Goodwin.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Benjamin B. and Fanny T.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 28.	Hattie H. Briggs.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Henry and ———.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	Thomas Barber.	"	Reading.	Essex.	John and Jane.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
" 28.	Mary Wiley.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Thomas and ———.	Rev. Luther D. Hill.
" 28.	William B. Jeffrey.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Henry and Sarah A.	Rev. William C. Reed.
" 28.	Mary P. Deadman.	"	Reading.	Essex.	John C. and Sarah A.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
" 28.	Horace E. Stone.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Wendell and Sylvia.	Rev. Thomas J. Greenwood.
" 28.	Eva S. Lewis.	"	Reading.	Essex.	John W. and Velina.	Rev. William Barrows.
" 28.	John C. Gleason.	"	Reading.	Essex.	John B. and Lucy L.	
" 28.	Harriet L. Weston.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Moses B. and Lydia B.	
" 28.	Lynnan L. Garfield.	"	Reading.	Essex.	E. W. and Dintha.	
" 28.	Maria J. Hawes.	"	Reading.	Essex.	Esra and Sabina.	
" 28.	Esra W. Wentworth.	"	Reading.	Essex.	——— Madlia.	
" 28.	Madlia C. Montgomery.	"	Reading.	Essex.		

Whole number of Marriages Registered 1871

43

NATIVITY OF PERSONS MARRIED.

United States	Males.	Females.
Foreign	39	38
	4	5



REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

Since the last annual town meeting, we have completed that portion of the wall upon Main Street which had then been commenced, and have laid heavy foundations for a wall extending from the original Main-street entrance to the southeasterly corner of the cemetery. As will be seen by the statement herein contained, we have not exhausted the appropriation made last March. We are of the opinion that the balance of that appropriation, with the amount which will probably be realized from sales of lots, will be sufficient to complete the wall which we have commenced.

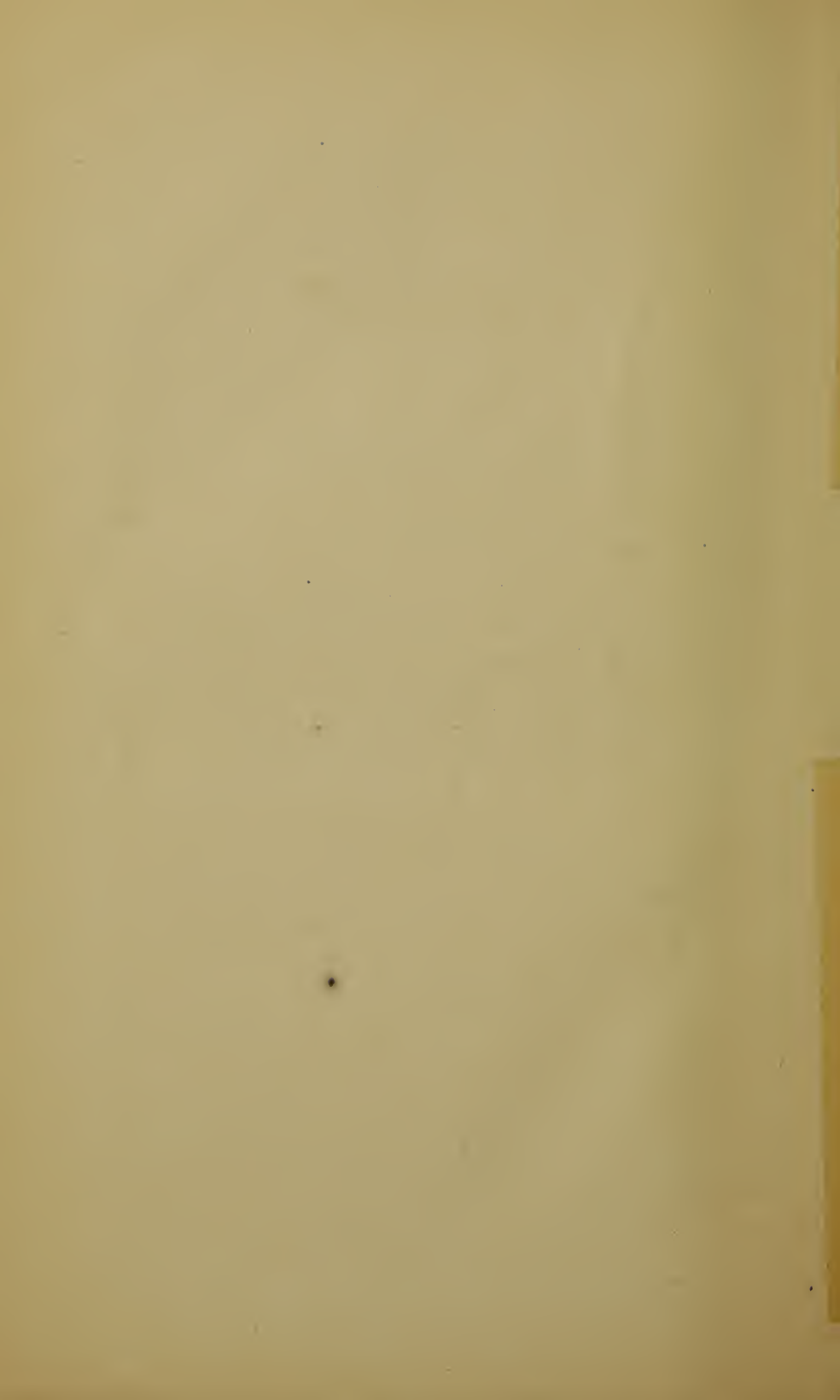
FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Balance in hands of Committee at commencement	
of the year	\$96 83
Drawn from town appropriation	850 00
Received from sales of lots	153 00
“ “ “ “ wood and fence	73 98
	<hr/>
	\$1,173 81
Paid for labor in the Cemetery	\$302 87
“ finishing wall which was commenced last	
year	133 00
“ laying faced wall south of Main St. gate	600 00
“ 28 days labor	56 00
“ removing ledge	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,101 87
Balance in hands of Committee	<hr/>
	\$71 94

F. O. DEWEY.
F. H. KNIGHT.
THOMAS B. PRATT.
GILMAN C. GLEASON.
WILLIAM PROCTOR.
SOLON BANCROFT.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE
TOWN OF READING
FOR 1871-72.



REPORT.

ANOTHER year has been numbered with the past since our last Report, and we again set before the town an account of our doings as Trustees of the Reading Public Library.

The demand for books is steadily increasing; the public interest in the Library continues unabated; and, as heretofore, on Saturday evenings especially, our rooms are thronged with our people, whose constant cry is, More! More!

We have not been able to purchase as many new books as we would have liked, for the constant wear incident to a general circulation of books, obliges us to devote a large proportion of our appropriation to binding.

This is likely to continue as a necessary consequence. We have had the past year to devote quite a sum to paying our indebtedness for catalogues; this we shall be exempt from the coming year.

We were fortunate the past year in having the legacy of T. Ward Hartshorn of one hundred dollars, to expend for books, which in part was an offset to the amount we had to pay of past indebtedness. We know of no legacies or individual donations, the coming year, to depend on, consequently we must look to the town for means of continuing the usefulness of the Library.

The formation of the "Natural-History Society" in town made a call for works on different branches of that science; and we have responded, as far as we were able, by purchasing several standard works by authors of acknowledged ability in their respective branches. In this way the Library has become, to some extent, a valuable adjunct to our High School.

At the same time there is a large call for works of a lighter character; and we have added some works of this description, though not nearly as many as we would have liked had our means been sufficient.

By reference to our Librarian's Report, it will be seen that this department is the one which most engages the attention of the general public. While we could wish more attention could be drawn to the more useful and substantial reading, still we must take things as we find them, and content ourselves with the thought, that this reading is better than more questionable occupations, and that the town is much the gainer even from this; for evenings spent by our young people at home, in the company of books, are much better than at stores and saloons.

We are aware that the sum of five hundred dollars appropriated for the Library seems to some a large one; but when we consider it is but about fifty cents to each person taking books from the Library, and that, as the books are frequently used by several members of a family, the amount is certainly not excessive: we therefore recommend that amount to be appropriated for the use of the Library the coming year.

The Board received with regret the resignation of Dr. Ephraim Hunt as Trustee of Reading Public Library, April 20, 1871; and at the regular meeting of the Board, May 6th, Mr. F. O. Dewey was chosen to fill the vacancy for the balance of the year. It will be necessary for the town to choose two Trustees at the annual town meeting to fill vacancies caused by term expiring of E. Appleton and Ephraim Hunt; the last temporarily filled by F. O. Dewey, Esq.

We are pleased to be able to report that no person has been suspended from the privileges of the Library for disorderly conduct the past year. The Librarian was sometime since annoyed by persons, not patrons of the Library, congregating on the steps at the entrance to the building, and making rude and ungentlemanly remarks and uncouth noises. This has, however, of late been discontinued, much to our satisfaction.

It has been found necessary to revise our Regulations and By-Laws, and the following were adopted in place of those previously in force:—

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. Any inhabitant of the town of Reading, over the age of 14 years, who has resided in said town for three months, may take books from this Library.

2. Any member of the Reading High School, who is under the age of 14, or who is not a resident of Reading, may take out books by obtaining permission in writing from any one of the Trustees, and presenting the same to the Librarian.

3. Any person over the age of 14, who has resided in said town less than three months, may take out books by depositing with the Librarian the sum of \$2; said sum to be refunded to them at the expiration of three months (or at any previous time, on their returning the Library Card), deducting such fine or damages as they may owe at that time.

4. No person shall take out more than one book at a time for his own use.

5. The time for which each book may be kept out (i. e., 14 or 7 days), and the fine per day for retaining it beyond that time (i. e., 1 or 5 cents), are marked on the outside labels. 14-day books have drab labels; 7-day books, red labels: 14-day books can be renewed once; 7-day books cannot be renewed. It is not necessary to bring in a book to be renewed; but the card on which it is charged *must be* presented.

6. All books must be returned for the Annual Examination, on or before the first Saturday in July, under penalty of a fine of \$1 for each book retained beyond that time.

7. No books can be taken out or returned without the Library Card. Cards can be obtained, by a personal or written application to the Librarian, at the Library. Applicants must give their full name and residence. (Married ladies will give their own Christian names, with the prefix Mrs.) If the card is lost, a fine of 10 cents will be charged for replacing it by a new one, or for returning a book without a card.

8. All damage to books, beyond the wear consistent with careful usage, will be reported to the Trustees; and the person to whom the book is charged will be liable to pay for repairs or renewal such sum as they may decree.

9. No person who is in arrears for fines or damages will be allowed to take books from the Library.

LIBRARY-ROOM REGULATIONS.

1. The Library is open every *Wednesday* from 2 to 5 P. M., and every *Saturday* from 2 to 5, and from 6 to 9 P. M., except during the Annual Examination in July.

2. All persons desiring to take out or return books, will pass in at once; as all loitering on the steps or in the entry is strictly forbidden.

3. Pass up in single file to the left of the table, state distinctly the name of the book wanted, and present the card you wish it charged on.

4. No person will be allowed to present more than four cards at one time; and no book can be returned on the same day it is taken out.

5. Those who have obtained their books will pass out at once, as the Library-room is too small to be used as a waiting or reading room.

6. All loud talking or other noise, or disorderly conduct, is forbidden. All such offences are reported to the Trustees, and subject the offender to a suspension from the privileges of the Library for such time as they may prescribe.

We append the Librarian's Annual Report, showing a good list of donations, which we hope may be continued; also showing, to some extent, the amount of labor performed in receiving and delivering books. And in this connection we would suggest that all the patrons of the Library supply themselves with catalogues, and come prepared with a list of books wanted, which will very much facilitate the delivery of books, and be a great convenience to both Librarian and patron. They may be had of the Librarian for the trifling sum of twenty-five cents each, which barely covers the cost of publication.

Thanking all who have in any way contributed to the success of the Library, we remain

Respectfully,

E. APPLETON,	}	<i>Trustees.</i>
F. O. DEWEY,		
HIRAM BARRUS,		
STEPHEN FOSTER,		
WM. PROCTOR,		
F. H. KNIGHT,		

E. APPLETON, *President.*

F. H. KNIGHT, *Secretary.*

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

FEB. 20, 1871, TO FEB. 20, 1872.

 Number of volumes February 20, 1871 (duplicates, 391) . 2,487

DONATIONS SINCE, IN ORDER OF DATE.

	VOLS.
Mrs. Jane Coney	4
F. H. Knight	15
E. Hunt	1
George C. Coney	2
Clinton Emerson	2
Wm. H. Willcox	4
Thos. B. Pratt	1
State of Massachusetts	9
Curtis Guild, Esq.	1
City of Boston	1
Anna E. Appleton	10
Daniel F. Pratt	5
Alfred P. Massey	2
Mrs. Jane E. Jeffrey	2
E. Appleton	4
Thos. Appleton, 2d	1
Miss Harriet N. Pinkham	4
T. Ward Hartshorne	47
George S. Cole	1
E. C. Burbank	1
Hon. N. P. Banks	15
Stephen Foster	6
Hiram Barrus	1
Total donations (duplicates, 10)	139
Purchased	58
By exchange	9
Total increase	— 206
Total number in Accession Catalogue	2,693
(Total duplicates, 401.)	

D E C R E A S E .

At the annual examination, July, 1871, 21 volumes were found to be too much worn for use, and not worth rebinding. New copies of 13 of these were bought (these not included in item "purchased," above), leaving a deficit of 8 volumes.

Twenty-two old duplicates were exchanged for 9 vols. newer works.

Two volumes ("Woodstock" and "The Small House at Allington"), charged to Mr. and Mrs. James Clayton, were not returned at the examination.

Decrease for the year	32 vols.
Previous to July, 1871, duplicates exchanged	3 "
" " " " burned at Mr. Morse's fire	2 "
" " " " charged to Jenny Towns, not returned	1 "
<hr/>	
Total decrease	38
(Duplicates, 25.)	
Number of volumes now in Library	2,655
Duplicates	376
<hr/>	
Actual number for circulation	2,279

Circulation for the year ending July 1, 1871.

Number of cards issued	973
" " taken out	14,386

Of which were —

Fiction	9,104
Juveniles	3,459
Retained at examination	8
Since returned	6
Missing	2

Two hundred and one volumes have been rebound, and sixty-three more are now at the bindery for that purpose.

There have been *no suspensions* for disorderly conduct during the year.

Besides the books given, we have received files of the "Reading Chronicle" and the "Advocate of Peace;" Report and Bulletins of the Boston Public Library; and Reports of the Public Libraries of Charlestown, Medford, Brighton, Winchester, New Bedford, and Manchester, N. H., and of the Mercantile Library of New York; and we have subscribed for the "Literary World" and the "Scientific American."

The following volumes are still missing from the Franklin Library : ---

Galt's Life of Byron.
 Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft.
 Lights and Shadows of European History.
 Prairie.
 Five Years in South Africa. 2 vols.
 Footprints of the Creator.
 A Summer in Scotland.
 The Red Rover.
 Jack Tier.
 Wyandotte.
 Living Age for 1857.

Missing from the Reading Agricultural Library : Mills' Fruit, Flower, and Vegetable Gardener's Companion. Missing from the Town Library : Winthrop's History of New England, 1630-49, vol. 2.

WANTED, TO FILL SETS.

Reading Chronicle, Nos. 1-8, 35, 51, vol. 1.
 Reports of the Board of Education, Nos. 1 and 9.
 Agriculture of Massachusetts, 1842-52, 1855, 1857.
 Patent-Office Reports, Agricultural, 1862, 1864, 1869.
 " Mechanical, 1854-66, 1868, 1871.

We should be glad if any one would donate the above, or we will purchase at a fair valuation.

In 1870-71 the Library was open 342 hours ; circulation, 14,386, or a little over 42 books per Library hour all through the year. Three-fourths of the books are brought in and taken out on Saturday : probably the delivery on Saturday would *average* 50 books to the hour, and at the "rush" between 7½ and 8½ o'clock must be much greater. Each book brought in obliges the Librarian to look at the card for the page, find page in record-book, see if that book is charged on that card, mark the date of its return, see if it is overdue, calculate the fine, and mark the date when paid. Each book taken out : to see card for page, find page, see that no fine is due, enter name of book,

date of taking, and put date of taking on card. And yet some people do not seem to see that the Librarian has not *much time* to spend in showing them books, and assisting them in making up their minds, and answering numberless questions in regard to the character of the different books, to say nothing of matters entirely foreign to the business of the Library.

The Librarian acknowledges that some errors are inevitable in this rush of business, which she trusts the patrons of the Library will excuse.

M. H. APPLETON,

Librarian.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF READING
FOR 1871-72.

R E P O R T.

For a period of thirty-four years the statutes have required the school committees throughout the Commonwealth to make a report of the condition of the schools under their care, accompanied with suggestions designed to promote the interests of the schools. The routine prescribed, coupled with the fact that education cannot be accelerated beyond a limited rate of speed, leaves little opportunity for indulgence in fine writing or glowing descriptions. The work from year to year is so similar, and the reports necessarily differ so little in general features, that they may become uninteresting to the general reader, and, possibly to the friends of the schools. On that account some points of importance may be overlooked, or fail to awaken attention.

In our present Report we so far depart from our usual custom as to introduce photographs of each school, made up from reports prepared by their respective teachers. The points suggested to them for report, were the present condition of each school, the progress for the year, suggestions of needed improvements, and the teacher's methods of instruction. Our object has been, not simply to make our Report more attractive. We believe that the teacher knowing more thoroughly every detail of the school, is thereby better qualified to give "a detailed report of the condition of the school" than is the committee. We hope also "to promote the interests of the schools" in this manner, making our report more effective by embodying in practical form the best thoughts of practical teachers, that each may be mutually assisted by hints from others, and at the same time stimulated to still more earnest and successful effort. One

may excel in methods for securing improvement in reading; another in writing; another in grammar; another in discipline. Another, of less experience, needs just the information that these supply. These considerations also encourage us to put these reports in a form for convenient reference. If the results seem to warrant the continuation of similar reports from the teachers in future years, they will have a better opportunity to do justice to themselves and their subjects.

It is proper to say that these reports were furnished at short notice, and generally with no expectation of their being made public, except as the facts and suggestions might be used by the Committee.

LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS MARY SHANKLAND, TEACHER.

"I have paid much attention to spelling, and have tried various plans in teaching it. The word to be spelt is printed on the blackboard, and remains till learned. Every Wednesday P. M. the pupils print on their slates all the new words learned for a week. They are required to point out silent letters, and tell why they are so called. Oral spelling is practiced constantly, spelling the names of familiar objects, &c. Spelling by the sounds of the letters has been tried to some extent.

The scholars, especially the boys, are very much interested in drawing, copying pictures, &c. They like object lessons very much. Every afternoon we have an exercise in marching or gymnastics. Every Wednesday we have general exercises, speaking pieces, reading short stories, or telling what is noticed on the way to school. I take care to have all the variety possible. The deportment, on the whole, has been good. We have had only one case of truancy for over two years; very little corporal punishment. I think a new set of drawing, numerical, alphabetical, and color charts would be a great help to the school; also the improved slates, with copies, drawing, &c., on the sides."

UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS SARAH SWEETSER, TEACHER.

"My scholars have seemed much interested in their studies, especially during the last term. When one is describing a river, country, &c., I ask another to volunteer to draw the same on the blackboard. Nearly all are anxious to make the trial, and soon learn to do the work very nicely. As only a small number can work on the board each day, the others are very desirous to have the promise of the next opportunity.

In reading, it is difficult to keep the attention of a class like mine of twenty-five scholars, while each one reads. I sometimes accomplish this by posting the name upon the blackboard of each one who reads without an error. At other times I promise to tell which scholar *I* think reads most properly; or perhaps ask the pupils themselves to say who has read most correctly. In such ways I secure almost perfect attention to the exercise. Scholars that miss two words in their spelling lessons must resume their study, and have no "ticket." Spelling is one of the general exercises every Friday afternoon. In a trial, selecting ten of the hardest words out of ten pages they had last studied, only two scholars in the first class, numbering twenty-three, failed; and only three of the second class, numbering twenty-two.

The deportment of the school has generally been good; that of the girls, excellent. I always give them praise for trying to do well; that goes a great ways with young children. [And with older children, too.—COM.] More slates are needed, as only about three-fourths of the pupils have them.

One little boy, a member of this school, bright and interesting, a favorite with his teacher and schoolmates, a son of Mr. J. C. Cook, died of membranous croup, November 8, 1871. His name was Chester; his age, eight years. Most of the scholars manifested their regard by attending the funeral, and *all* contributed to the purchase of flowers for the casket, which held a treasure more lovely than the loveliest of flowers."

LOWER MEDIUM SCHOOL.

MISS E. S. FOSTER, TEACHER.

"I try to make the school-room and school duties as pleasant as possible to the children, that they may like to come to the school, and also like the work there. To make the room cheerful, I introduce pictures, mottoes, flowers, &c. To make the *work* attractive is a more difficult matter. I remember the child's natural activity, and so give him enough to do. I remember his love of change, and so bring as much variety as possible into the recitations, making them sometimes seem like play, and with good effect. Sometimes a class repeats the multiplication table set to music; or spells words, accompanied by exercises in gymnastics. Writing has received some attention, and the progress has been gratifying. We have frequent exercises in singing, nearly every scholar taking a part."

UPPER MEDIUM SCHOOL.

MISS A. M. KNIGHT, TEACHER.

"*Map drawing* has never been taught to my scholars till the past year. I have paid considerable attention to it, and I think with very good success. *Writing* the *spelling* lesson is also new to my school, having been used as an exercise only in the more advanced schools. I am sure the penmanship and accuracy in spelling have very much improved during the last term.

The first class in spelling in the first term of the year were very dull. Some of them would fail in spelling eighteen words out of the twenty-four assigned for a lesson. At the close of the last term they would write out their lessons with hardly a mistake.

Each day I credit my pupils for good recitations and deportment. At the end of every two weeks I average them, and reseat the scholars according to their rank in the class. If a scholar seems to have leisure time, I often send him to the board to draw some map or drawing he has previously taken as a

lesson. Sometimes I give one a piece in the reading-book to write carefully on the slate; another writes examples in addition, subtraction, or multiplication on the board, as a lesson for the class. I often ask an idler to write the spelling lesson as well as possible, and show it to me, or to write all he remembers of a certain geography or reading lesson. An extra credit, now and then, insures an extra effort to master a difficult lesson. When the scholars seem restless or tired, I sometimes read them a story, and ask them about it afterwards. I often give short mental exercises in rapid adding and multiplying, or taking larger numbers on the slate to be performed as quickly as possible. I aim at variety, and adopt new methods to meet differing circumstances."

VILLAGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MRS. M. S. WOOD, TEACHER.

.... "There has seemed to be a lack of self-respect among the scholars, which I have endeavored to revive, and with that also self-reliance. I have endeavored to gain the confidence of my pupils, so that each one might feel that I had their individual good at heart, and that whatever I did was subservient to that end. I have sought to secure the progress of each scholar in his studies according to his ability. Sometimes a want of application to study manifests itself, and I resort to various exercises to awaken interest, as spelling matches, general exercises in arithmetic, &c. These tend at the same time to aid them in their regular studies. The school has much improved in deportment since my connection with it, as well as in disposition to study."

The Committee have to say in respect to this school that it had a most unfortunate experience in losing the services of Miss Mary F. Wood at the close of the summer term. Her successor, Miss Hinckley, was a young lady of some experience in teaching, a graduate of the Bridgewater Normal School, thoroughly educated, inspired with a hearty love for her profession, well recommended; but unfortunately succeeding a teacher of rare tact and

popularity, and the school being one of our most difficult, the position was unusually trying. The health of the teacher was unequal to the task of overcoming the obstacles, and securing control of the school, and she finally resigned the position before the close of the fall term. Mrs. Wood succeeded, and has labored with great fidelity, and a good degree of success, to secure the best interests of the school.

PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL.

MISS LENA T. WOOD, TEACHER.

"READING. The pupils have made much progress in reading this year, particularly in enunciation, use of the voice, and confidence.

SPELLING is unsatisfactory; and it seems to me the remedy, for future classes, is in the lower schools. I try both oral and written methods, but it seems nearly impossible to correct an error of so long standing.

ARITHMETIC. Nothing new in this study, except that I have given more practice in oral work. I think if mental arithmetic was more thoroughly taught before the pupils reach this school, we should progress more rapidly here. Nothing wakes up my pupils like an exercise in mental arithmetic.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY. Recitations in both these studies are conducted in a great measure by the pupils themselves. The text-book often furnishes but a very small portion of the facts presented at the recitation. The pupils show much enthusiasm and ingenuity in carrying on these exercises. With the thorough preparation made by each one, every point is critically examined, and a great deal of useful information is gained.

GRAMMAR. In this my object has been to correct and improve the language of the pupils. They have studied examples of incorrect construction a good deal, and are quite sharp in detecting errors and giving reasons. They also, to this end, criticise one another pretty severely if faulty expressions are used in their recitations. For exercises in composition I give pictures to describe, poetry to change into prose, &c.

I have recently introduced a general exercise, consisting of the recitation of short and pithy items by the pupils, who make the selections from newspapers and other sources. This awakens much interest, and promises good results.

MUSIC. Substantial progress has been made in this science. Understanding thoroughly the principles, the pupils are able to answer any questions in the 'Alphabet of Music,' beat time to their singing, &c.

In conclusion I will add, that the pupils have been learning to control and govern themselves, which is not the least important of their lessons."

The Committee refer with pleasure to a fact that well illustrates the closing remarks of the above report. Miss Wood's pupils have shown by actual trial that they have learned to "control and govern themselves." They have been left during the hours of study with no one to direct or report them to the teacher on her return, and have conducted themselves during the whole time with perfect propriety. Such conduct is worthy of commendation, and we hope for good results from the influence of their example on other schools.

MAIN-STREET SCHOOL.

MISS JULIA McDUFFIE, TEACHER.

"The advancement of the school during the last two terms has been quite rapid and thorough. I have endeavored to make mathematics as practical as possible, consequently have not confined them very closely to the book, but have given familiar exercises as a substitute. I consider 'mental exercises' a very important aid in acquiring a practical knowledge of arithmetic. In geography I have had valuable assistance from Guyot's Guide.

My first class in grammar having a good knowledge of parsing have recently given some attention to analysis which has been a benefit to them.

The school, as a whole, do nicely in spelling. They have both oral and written exercises daily. Some of the scholars lack

volume of voice, and the confidence necessary to make good readers, but are improving by the constant effort they are making. In writing they were well classified by their former teacher, and are doing well. They exhibit considerable talent in drawing.

Rapid progress demands good order, and a lively interest in the studies pursued. I have resorted to various methods for securing these objects, and with a good degree of success."

LOWELL-STREET SCHOOL.

MISS VIENNA G. BOWLES, TEACHER.

"At the close of last term my school excelled anything I had hoped for. It is under good discipline, and the pupils seem interested in their studies. I make as few rules as possible, and never fail to use them at the proper time. The teacher should always be pleasant, and in no instance reprimand a scholar in a harsh, irritable tone. The school is what the teacher makes it. If she loses her patience, the school will lose their respect. I never yet saw a successful school where the teacher was given to fault-finding. I give short lessons, and require them to be well learned."

HAVERHILL-STREET SCHOOL.

MISS E. S. FOSTER, TEACHER.

"In this school the older classes have few pupils in each, and they seem to be wanting in a proper ambition. This is partly due to frequent absences. The younger classes have a larger number of pupils in them, and are quite wide awake. The whole school excels in geography and in drawing maps. They do well in writing and drawing. The deportment was very good during my year there. I left the school in November, 1871. The first class in arithmetic had gone through 'Interest,' and seemed to understand it. The second class had studied through 'Common Fractions.'"

WALNUT-STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS RUTH L. PRATT, TEACHER.

"My scholars have made decided progress in drawing, spelling, and geography. My method of teaching drawing is to give them objects to draw at sight just as soon as they are acquainted with the simplest rules of linear perspective. In spelling I first teach them to pronounce the words, then to write them. Each scholar spells every word in the lesson, and in case of failure loses his place in his class. In geography I assign them the descriptive portions by topics, giving them any information of interest that I obtain from other geographies, or from any other source whatever, and use Guyot's construction lines in map-drawing. I question my pupils often on common objects, in order to train them to habits of observation. They have become much interested in gathering up and relating such facts concerning places, persons and things, contained in their lessons as are new to them. We have frequent reviews. In one of these, in geography, a class failed in the description of Chicago. They gave as a reason that 'there wasn't any Chicago now; it was all burned up, and they' didn't study that part of the lesson.' This may serve as an illustration of the practical use they sometimes make of their knowledge. The deportment of my school is good. I have had of late no occasion to resort to severe discipline."

WALNUT-STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MISS SARAH E. HOLT, TEACHER.

"ARITHMETIC. First class advanced from Decimal Fractions to Insurance; second class, from Reduction through Common Fractions; third class, to Reduction.

HISTORY. During two terms the class have taken the Discoveries, a part of the Settlements, and French and Indian War.

GRAMMAR. A part of the year was spent with the textbook; the remainder, in parsing and analysis.

GEOGRAPHY. Recitations have consisted mainly in map-drawing, giving physical features, productions, and principal cities, towns, and items of interest.

Some progress has been made in reading. The spelling lesson is written on the board. A short time has been devoted each day to mental exercises, singing and drawing. I have endeavored, in methods of instruction, to be *topical*, and generally oral. My efforts have been to be thorough, and teach pupils to reason rather than memorize.

The school compares favorably with that of the previous year."

WOBURN-STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

MISS L. F. WILLIAMS, TEACHER.

Report wanting, and teacher absent from town. We are not entirely familiar with the teacher's methods, but the results are manifest in the excellent condition of the school. The deportment of the pupils, and their progress in their studies, is very satisfactory.

WOBURN-STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MISS LUCY HARDEN, TEACHER.

The absence of the teacher prevents our obtaining her report of this school. We regret this, as she has had long experience in teaching, and excellent success. Miss Webster remained in the school two terms of the year, but left on account of ill health. The school seems to be in a prosperous condition.

HIGH SCHOOL.

CYRUS A. COLE, PRINCIPAL.

"MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE, — For convenience, the studies of the High School may be classified as follows : —

Mathematics. — Algebra, geometry, trigonometry and applications, arithmetic, and book-keeping.

Languages. — Latin, French, English (including rhetoric).

History, &c. — Ancient and modern history, Constitution of United States, mental science.

Science. — Chemistry, botany, physiology, natural philosophy, geology and physical geography, astronomy.

Drawing and Music.

During the present school-year, attention has been paid to the following studies by the different classes : —

FOURTH CLASS.

This class has had daily recitations in reading, algebra, and Latin.

Reading. — It is with great satisfaction that I am able to refer to the improvement in this very important branch. Much time has been given to reading in concert, thus enabling many to gain confidence in their effort, and overcome certain defects. It has been the constant aim of the teacher to have the pupils read with feeling and expression. Hard, honest labor, together with patience and continued enthusiasm, will effect, it is believed, still more satisfactory results in this direction.

Latin. — The class has given attention to the translation of easy Latin sentences, as illustrating the use of the paradigms. Roman history in the Latin Reader will be commenced in the spring term.

Algebra, also, will be continued, special attention being given to ratio and proportion.

Drawing. — During the last term a half-hour daily has been given to drawing, with excellent results, the teacher requiring the subject of the lesson to be drawn several times, and criticised, before allowing it to be placed in the drawing-book. Other members of the school have also been allowed to join the class in drawing.

THIRD CLASS.

French. — This class last term finished Roman history, and substituted *French* for Latin. Many are desirous of continuing the study of Latin before graduating. An opportunity will be afforded them for so doing.

The members of the class are unanimous in their enthusiasm respecting the study of French, and I am induced to anticipate the happiest results.

The themes abound in historical and biographical references, the consideration of which affords much useful information, and serves to keep up a lively interest in the study.

Geometry. — This study was commenced the first term, and will be continued throughout the year. Aside from its practical utility, it affords an excellent discipline for the mind. Much encouragement has been given to pupils to originate demonstration. I have adhered to no particular mode of conducting the recitation in geometry, preferring to allow the pupils to derive whatever benefit might accrue from variety of methods. One method, which I have tried with most gratifying success, might be mentioned in this connection.

After some member of the class has stated the theorem to be demonstrated, the teacher then gives to the class a description of the geometrical figure to be used, as it exists in his mind, *without* any graphical representation on the blackboard. Different pupils are then called upon to take part in the demonstration. The ability of the pupils to demonstrate accurately, either orally or in writing, as required by the teacher, is considered a criterion of the scholars' knowledge of the subject. By this method it is evident, 1st, that the pupil gains in power to express correctly his thought; 2d, that great concentration of mind is necessary on the part of the pupil to make a successful recitation.

The first term, this class concluded their study of physiology. Rhetoric was commenced the second term.

SECOND CLASS.

French. — This class finished Part I. of the grammar last term, and commenced the French reader, which will be studied in connection with Part II. of the grammar. The class will be able to finish the reader without difficulty during the summer term, and will have made thorough preparation for the further consideration of this interesting study next year.

Natural Philosophy. — In teaching this science, constant reference is made to the experience of the pupil, so far as it relates to every-day phenomena, thus encouraging in him habits of observation and reasoning.

When practicable, use is made of the knowledge of algebra and geometry acquired earlier in the course. This study is admirably adapted to give practice in inductive reasoning, by the proper and intelligent use of the apparatus.

History. — In pursuing this branch, the pupils are required to prepare themselves on all points, geographical or otherwise, connected with the lesson. They are encouraged, also, to bring to the class any collateral information which may have valuable reference to the subject under consideration. Value is attached not so much to isolated facts as to the great central truths, the *philosophy*, of this very comprehensive study.

Rhetoric. — This class has usually recitations in connection with the text-book. During portions of the first and second terms, the class had almost daily exercises in composition and description of objects, as pictures, &c., thereby accomplishing more thorough and better work than when attention is given to these subjects less frequently.

The study of *Physiology* was concluded the first term of the year, and that of *Geometry* the second.

FIRST CLASS.

Arithmetic and Book-keeping. — Scholars study arithmetic for several years before connecting themselves with the High School; and it is a noticeable fact, that if pupils continue this branch immediately after entering the High School, there is a lack of interest which is not observable when the subject is reviewed later in the course. In order, therefore, to secure the most desirable results, and to economize the time and labor of the pupil, it has been deemed advisable to defer the consideration of these important studies — arithmetic and book-keeping — until the senior year.

English Literature. — Attention has been paid to the biographies of Dickens, Tennyson, Longfellow, Scott, Irving, and Whittier. Selections from these authors have been studied, and portions of them memorized. Considerable time has been devoted to writing abstracts, transcriptions, and essays. During the summer term special reference will be made to the excellent articles on the 'Theory of Beauty' and 'Philosophy of Style,' as presented in the text-book, 'Hunt's English Literature.'

The interest already awakened in regard to the study of English literature induces the belief that the class will prosecute its studies in this direction after graduating from the High School, when preparation for the class-room will no longer be required, but exist only in the memory.

French. — The class has finished the reader, and begun '*Les Princes de l'Art.*' This text-book furnishes an almost unlimited supply of topics for conversation and recitation in regard to the lives and works of the great masters of architecture, sculpture, and painting. In the use of this book, it is the design of the teacher to consider the origin, history, and use of these arts; to call the attention of the pupil to the influence exerted upon those nations and individuals that patronize and cultivate them.

The study of *Astronomy* was concluded last term.

Geology will be studied next term.

Besides the regular school-work, instruction out of school has been given to pupils in Latin, Greek, and chemistry."

The Committee will add in relation to the High School, that its annual examination occurred June 27. A large number of the friends of the school were present, filling the room to overflowing. The exercises were practical illustrations of the scholars, knowledge, and were of more than usual interest. The classes in chemistry and natural philosophy performed experiments with their new apparatus which indicated much familiarity with their studies. Water suspected of containing poisonous ingredients was analyzed, and the process fully explained.

A class of young ladies, over which Miss C. E. Hollis presided, took part in a debate, which exhibited the elocutionary improvement of the pupils in a very attractive manner. The recitation on the history of the English language was well illustrated by instructive facts, showing careful study and progressive work. The history of the graduating class, a well-written production by Miss Weston, referred to the fact that this class, the largest in the history of the school, originally consisted of twenty-two members. One-half of the number had fallen out by the way. They had received two additions from the class below, Miss Lizzie Clark and Miss Nellie Willcox, making the number of graduates thirteen.

Various pieces of music were sung by the pupils under the

direction of Prof. Carey. The excellence of their performance bore ample testimony to the excellent quality of the training the pupils have been receiving. Wendell Phillips once said, "There is a want of musical taste and cultivation among us. It will never be remedied till it becomes something more than a mere holiday affair. The people must grow up in it, in order to appreciate it, and make it a part of their life and character." There is much truth in these remarks, and we hope the attempt made to give it a prominent place in our schools, together with the success of the effort thus far, will meet with the approval and encouragement of our people.

GRADUATING CLASS. 1871.

FRANK E. APPLETON.
WILDER C. MOULTON.
WILLIE I. RUGGLES.
ARTHUR W. TEMPLE.
LIZZIE A. BURRILL.
LIZZIE F. B. CLARK.
MARGARET F. CLARK.
M. LIZZIE DAY.
HANNIE L. HILL.
SARAH L. STOODLEY.
Z. ABBIE WAKEFIELD.
SARAH A. WESTON.
NELLIE G. WILLCOX.

The diplomas, by request of the Committee, were presented by Rev. Dr. Barrows, who accompanied the act by a short and felicitous address. Brief addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Willcox; Hon. P. H. Sweetser, of Wakefield; Dea. J. R. Morton, of the School Committee; and Joshua Clark, Esq.

The graduating class presented to the school the large engraving, "Franklin at the Parisian Court;" and the class of 1867 presented the fine chromo, "Mont Blanc."

HISTORICAL.

The High School was first established in this town in 1856. There was no prescribed course of study for several years, and no class graduated till 1863. The first graduates were Frederic

Bancroft, Lena A. Wakefield, Esther Emerson, Maria Parker. The graduates of 1864 were Sarah E. Pratt and Emma Prescott. The record of succeeding graduates may be found in previous reports. The whole number of graduates is sixty. It would be interesting to know what number was connected with the school, for six months or more previous to 1863. The first principal of the school was Henry A. Littell, who remained till near the close of 1858. He was succeeded by Mr. Philip C. Porter. Mr. R. B. Clarke, now of Fitchburg, taught during the summer and fall terms in 1860, when Mr. L. B. Pillsbury was employed for the winter term. He remained in charge of the school till the close of the spring term in 1864. Mr. George L. Baxter taught for two terms, and Mr. Charles R. Brown was employed to succeed him. Mr. Brown remained here only a year. Mr. George W. Adams was employed in December, 1865, but resigned in three weeks. Mr. Edward H. Peabody next succeeded, and remained till the close of the spring term in 1868. Mr. Cyrus Cole, the present teacher, was then selected for the position he still so acceptably fills.

The first assistant teacher in the High School, Miss Emeline P. Wakefield, was employed in 1865-66; Miss Ruth L. Pratt, 1866-67; Miss Mary H. Howes, 1867-68; Miss Josie Nelson and Mrs. C. A. Soule, 1868-69; Miss Rissie L. Hoyt, 1869-70; Miss Mary H. Howes, 1870-71. Miss Susie E. Wade has held this position for two terms, but now resigns.

RESIGNATIONS.

Several teachers, that have held honorable positions in our schools for a considerable period, have resigned during the year, to accept more remunerative or more attractive positions in other fields of labor, or in other departments of life. In this list are the names of Misses Sarah E. Austin, Mary H. Howes (now Mrs. Henry Robinson), Abbie M. Parker, M. Eva Webster, and Mary F. Wood (now Mrs. Geo. H. Dexter). We hope the fate of those who have become "Mrs." will not frighten away those who remain, or deter others from accepting positions here as teachers.

SCHOOL-ROOMS.

At the commencement of the summer term, it was found that the rooms occupied by the village schools were filled beyond their capacity. To relieve these schools, it was finally decided by the Committee to send a portion of the pupils to the schools where some of them, at least, had formerly attended, and where, if the old district lines had not been abolished, they would still belong. This plan did not seem entirely satisfactory; and the matter was brought before the town at the November meeting, hoping it would give the Committee specific instructions on the subject, or select a special committee to mature a satisfactory plan for properly distributing the pupils among the different schools. The town voted to refer the matter back to the School Committee. They suggest that one of the most feasible plans seems to be, to remove the Haverhill-street school-house to Pearl Street, or to some point in that vicinity, where it will still be accessible to most of the pupils that now attend it, and also convenient for a portion of the pupils that now attend the village schools. The pupils that could not well follow to the new locality could, with little difficulty, go to the Main-street School, where are good accommodations for a larger number than at present belong there. Such an arrangement will not increase the number of teachers, and will secure better school accommodations for a larger number of pupils than the present state of things affords. If this or a similar plan is not adopted, the constantly increasing number of children will soon compel the opening of another school in the village, requiring another teacher; while the Haverhill-street School, in its present location, seems destined to die of exhaustion from want of scholars.

The High-School building now contains, in its three schools, nearly two hundred pupils. Some method of relief seems imperative. Two methods present themselves for consideration. The raising of the roof of the house would furnish space for the construction of a large hall, and also smaller rooms for study and recitation, which would meet all the necessities of the case. Such a hall is very desirable for the public examinations and performances of the school. If there were no need of addi-

tional room for the crowd of pupils below, a hall seems necessary for many occasions when it is desirable to bring the pupils together for practice of music, singing, and general exercises of various kinds. If the town does not feel warranted in assuming the necessary expense involved in such a modification of the High-School building, partial relief may be secured by again supplying Union Hall with seats and desks, and removing the grammar school thither. The hundred and fifty pupils remaining would have no surplus room, after making a few alterations to put the apartments in desirable condition.

SCHOOL TERMS.

Nearly all the schools have been kept for thirty-five weeks each during the past year. The High School has continued the required time — nine months. The Haverhill-street School has been less fortunate. After the abrupt close of its winter term, at the end of five weeks, it was deemed advisable to have Miss Harden return during the vacation and supply the deficiency, her acquaintance with the school, and her eminent success in teaching, promising better results than any other course. Failing to secure a boarding-place, she withdrew her acceptance of the position, and the school was left to commence at the same time as the others, with the new year.

DRAWING.

The act of 1870 requires drawing to be included among the branches taught in the public schools. The lack of suitable teachers seemed a serious obstacle in the way of carrying out this requirement. The emergency was met by employing Prof. Whitefield to give a course of lessons to the teachers of the different schools, who formed themselves into a class for this purpose. The plan was economical, and proved entirely satisfactory. The teachers proceeded immediately to teach the pupils the lessons they were themselves receiving; and the interest awakened in this department, and the results obtained, were highly gratifying.

O B I T U A R Y .

It seems proper that reference be made to the decease of Mr. John Batchelder, which occurred in this town, July, 7, 1871. He was a graduate of Harvard College in the class of 1823. After teaching for a brief period in Nantucket, he opened an academy in this town in 1827, in a building erected on the site of the present residence of Dr. F. F. Brown. The school prospered for many years; and numbers of young men, from this and the surrounding towns, were here fitted for college. Mr. Batchelder relinquished the school in 1843 to Mr. Wait, who soon closed it. He served the town with great fidelity as one of the School Committee for thirty years, commencing in 1828, and continuing nearly every year till 1863. He also served for some years on the Board of Selectmen, and once represented the town in the legislature. He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, a good citizen, and thoroughly honest in all his dealings. No person has served the town so long in behalf of its educational interests, and none more faithfully. He attained the age of 80 years, 2 months and 12 days.

A P P R O P R I A T I O N S .

Reference to the Report of the Selectmen will show that we have exceeded the amount of appropriations for schools by the amount of \$250. The appropriation by the town for each of the last two years has been \$7,000. We have been obliged, during the past year, in order to retain teachers that we could not spare without serious detriment, to offer an increase of salary that we shall be obliged to continue. The loss of a good teacher, we have found to our cost, is often the loss of the wages paid to a successor, and of the time of the pupils for several terms, — perhaps for a year, — to say nothing of the demoralization of the school before we can find a successor who can fill the vacancy, and regain the confidence and control of the school. It is often not the fault of the teacher who succeeds, but of human nature itself. Confidence is still a plant of slow growth. It often requires a term for "skirmishing" between a

new teacher and the pupils before they get the measure of each other; another term for the development of confidence and mutual respect; and perhaps still another to establish that bond of love and sympathy between each that perfects the school of which the pupils are the living members — controlled, moved, inspired, by the teacher, who is now become the soul, the living spirit, of the live body.

Our higher-grade schools are acknowledged to be among the best in the State. They are exerting an elevating influence upon the lower schools. It is our desire to make these equally good. In order to carry on our work satisfactorily, and, as we believe, for the best interests of the town, we would respectfully suggest that the town appropriate for schools for the current year the sum of eight thousand dollars.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The terms of Messrs. Morton and McIntire expire this spring, and a vacancy exists in consequence of the resignation of Dr. Hunt. These vacancies are to be filled at the approaching annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

HIRAM BARRUS,	} <i>School Committee.</i>
S. E. PARKER,	
WM. J. WIGHTMAN,	
C. B. McINTIRE,	
J. R. MORTON,	

READING, March 20, 1872.

ATTENDANCE.

SCHOOLS.		Number of Scholars.	Average Attendance.
LOWER PRIMARY . . .	{ 1st term . . .	46 . . .	39+
	{ 2d " . . .	70 . . .	57
	{ 3d " . . .	62 . . .	46
UPPER PRIMARY	{ 1st term . . .	48 . . .	40
	{ 2d " . . .	52 . . .	46
	{ 3d " . . .	53 . . .	44
LOWER MEDIUM	{ 1st term . . .	50 . . .	45
	{ 2d " . . .	45 . . .	38
	{ 3d " . . .	48 . . .	41
UPPER MEDIUM	{ 1st term . . .	57 . . .	52
	{ 2d " . . .	49 . . .	44
	{ 3d " . . .	47 . . .	42
GRAMMAR	{ 1st term . . .	47 . . .	42
	{ 2d " . . .	47 . . .	44
	{ 3d " . . .	52 . . .	48
PREPARATORY	{ 1st term . . .	56 . . .	52
	{ 2d " . . .	56 . . .	51
	{ 3d " . . .	58 . . .	53
HIGH	{ 1st term . . .	66 . . .	65
	{ 2d " . . .	90 . . .	89
	{ 3d " . . .	89 . . .	87+
WOBBURN ST. GRAMMAR	{ 1st term . . .	24 . . .	22
	{ 2d " . . .	23 . . .	21
	{ 3d " . . .	23 . . .	22
WOBBURN ST. PRIMARY	{ 1st term . . .	28 . . .	25
	{ 2d " . . .	23 . . .	20
	{ 3d " . . .	21 . . .	18
WALNUT ST. GRAMMAR	{ 1st term . . .	23 . . .	21
	{ 2d " . . .	27 . . .	26
	{ 3d " . . .	27 . . .	25
WALNUT ST. PRIMARY	{ 1st term . . .	29 . . .	26
	{ 2d " . . .	24 . . .	21
	{ 3d " . . .	28 . . .	24
LOWELL STREET	{ 1st term . . .	20 . . .	17
	{ 2d " . . .	21 . . .	18
	{ 3d " . . .	22 . . .	17—
MAIN STREET	{ 1st term . . .	23 . . .	22+
	{ 2d " . . .	21 . . .	20
	{ 3d " . . .	22 . . .	21—
HAVERHILL STREET . .	{ 1st term . . .	17 . . .	14
	{ 2d " . . .	19 . . .	15
	{ 3d " . . .	26 . . .	16

